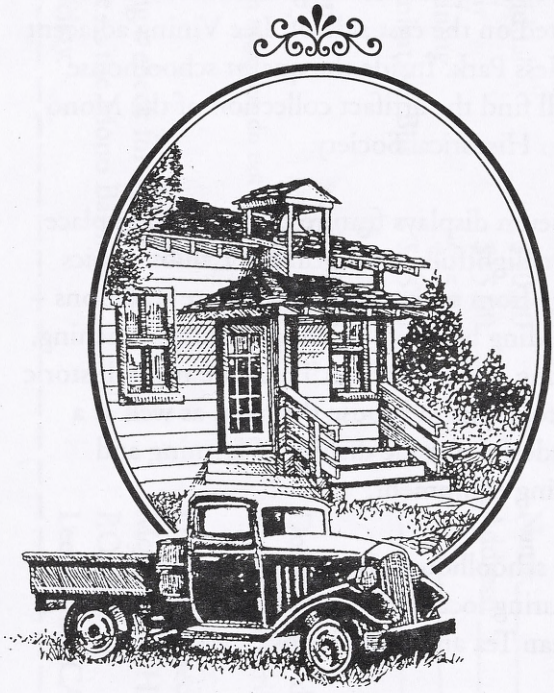
The Mono Lake Schoolhouse Museum



The Mono Basin Historical Society

Lee Vining, California

Illustration by Dana Lamb courtesy of U.S. Forest Service

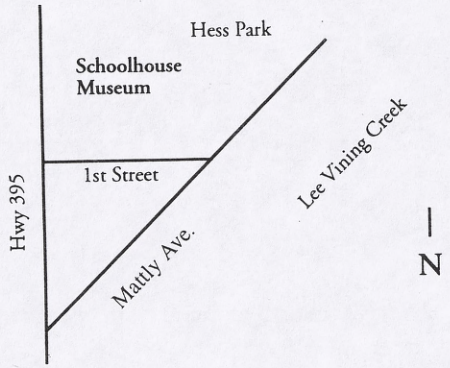
The Old Mono Lake Schoolhouse Museum

With a beautiful view of Mono Lake and the Mono Craters, the museum is a enjoyable place to spend a quiet morning or afternoon. It is located on the east side of Lee Vining adjacent to Hess Park. Inside the quaint schoolhouse you'll find the artifact collection of the Mono Basin Historical Society.

Museum displays feature both common place and delightfully odd artifacts. Exhibit topics range from native Kuzedika Paiute traditions – including baskets – to early farming, ranching, mining and recreation. There are many historic photographs to brouse through, as well as a wonderful outside display of farming and mining equipment.

The schoolhouse also offers a small gift shop featuring local artists, books, maps, postcards, Indian Tea and other items.

The museum is visitor friendly and would be glad to share stories of the area with you. Come visit us for an interesting look into the past.



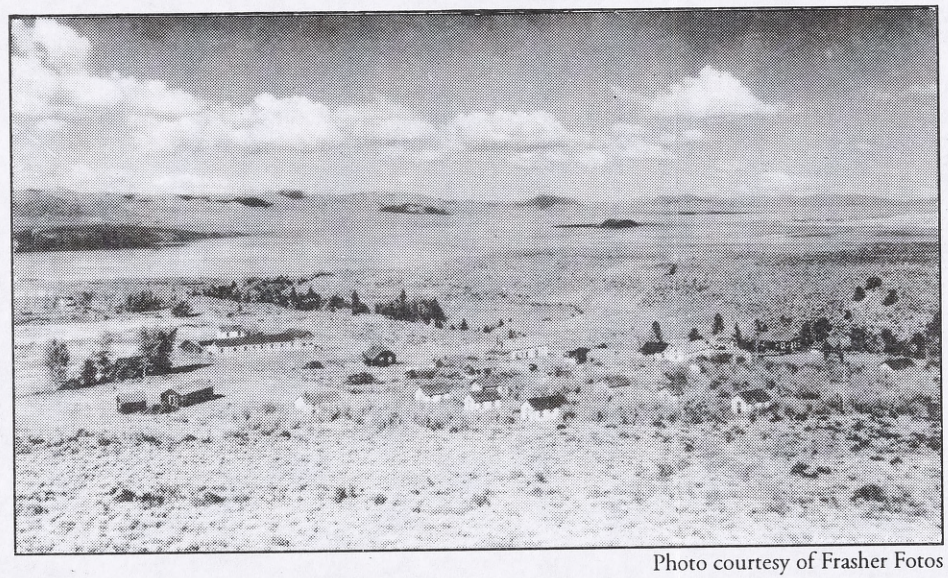


Photo courtesy of Frasher Fotos

The townsite of Lee Vining in the late 1920s. The long, low building on the left side is the El Mono Motel.

The **Old Mono Lake Schoolhouse** was originally located by DeChambeau Creek about five miles north of the Lee Vining townsite. It was built in 1925 and served children from the many farms and ranches in the Mono Basin. By the late 1930s the town of Lee Vining had been settled and a new school had been built, so the Mono Lake Schoolhouse was converted into a private residence.

Later, the property was bought by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. In 1987, the Department had plans to tear down the schoolhouse. Several concerned citizens began the Mono Basin Historical Society in an effort to save the school. The Department donated the schoohouse to the Historical Society. With the help of Mono County and countless businesses and individuals, the schoolhouse was moved to its present location in 1988. After many hours of restoration work, the building was dedicated as a museum in August, 1989.

You can still see the many trees and shrubs that surrounded the old schoolhouse at the original site. Look on the west side of the highway just north of the Mono Inn where a little creek crosses under the road.

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The museum is closed in the off-season. For current hours or information, write or call:

Mono Basin Historical Society
Mono Basin Historical Society
Old Schoolhouse Museum
P. O. Box 31
Lee Vininng, CA 93541
(760) 647-6461

The Mono Lake Schoolhouse Museum

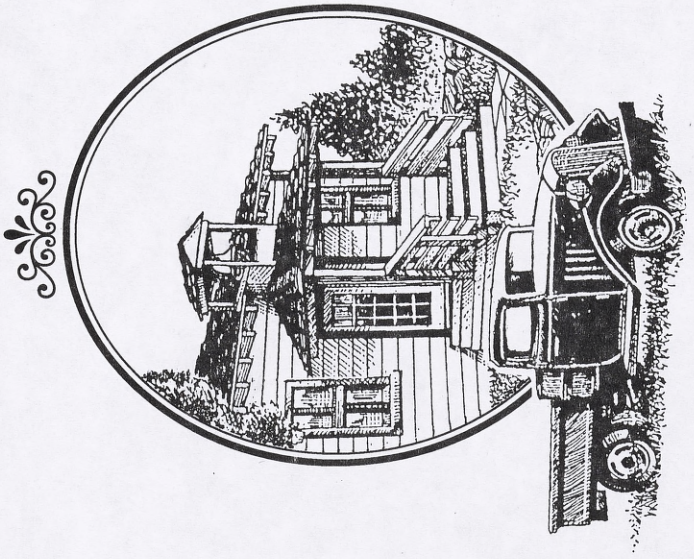

Illustration by Dana Lamb courtesy of U.S. Forest Service

The Mono Basin Historical Society

Lee Vining, California

Mono Basin Historical Society
P.O. Box 31
Lee Vining, CA 93541

I want to join (or renew my membership in) the Mono Basin Historical Society.

Individual	$10.00
Family	$15.00
Sustaining	$25.00
Organization/Bus	$25.00
Life*	$125.00
Patron*	$500.00

*Life and Patron members do not need to renew.

I am enclosing a check for $_____ made payable to the Mono Basin Historical Society.

Name:_____

Address: _____

_____

_____

Donations to the Mono Basin Historical Society are tax-deductible.

Detach this section and mail with your check to:
Mono Basin Historical Society
P.O. Box 31
Lee Vining, CA 93541

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